

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Sub E17
Claims 1-6 (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A contour emphasizing circuit, comprising: ~~according to Claim 5,~~

a contour pick-up unit for sampling a contour component from an input video signal;

a level judging unit comprising a decoder for dividing the luminance level into n number of levels by discriminating the luminance level of the input video signal on the basis of m -bit data of upper luminance levels, with n being equal to

2^{m-1} ;

a coefficient control unit for selectively changing a coefficient among n number of coefficients based on a judging signal from said level judging unit so that a high-value coefficient is selected for a high luminance level and a low-value coefficient is selected for a low luminance level, with the coefficient multiplied by the contour component sampled by means of said contour pick-up unit; and

an adder for adding the contour component output from the coefficient control unit to the input video signal for outputting a contour-emphasized video signal,

wherein the level judging unit comprises a decoder for discriminating the luminance level of an input video signal on the basis of m bit data of upper luminance levels to divide the luminance level into n number ($n = 2^m - 1$) of luminance levels, whose maximum coefficient values range from 1 or less, $1/2$ or more, $1/2$ or less, $1/4$ or more, $1/4$ or less, $1/8$ or more, ..., to 0 or more, to interpret whether the luminance

~~level of an input video signal corresponds to which of the n number of luminance levels.~~

E1 Cont
D1 contd
8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The contour emphasizing circuit according to Claim 7, wherein the said decoder of said level judging unit comprises the decoder for interpreting whether correlates the luminance level of the input video signal corresponds to which one of four luminance levels, and the coefficient control unit comprises four multipliers for multiplying the contour components sampled by using the said contour pick-up unit by any of the coefficients 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and 1 for outputting the product thereof, four AND gates respectively connected to the an output sides side of the four multipliers for using the signal interpreted by said decoder as a gate control signal, and an the OR gate connected to the output sides of the four AND gates.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The contour emphasizing circuit according to Claim 5 7, wherein the said contour pick-up unit comprises a horizontal contour component pick-up unit for sampling the contour component in a horizontal direction from the input video signal.

Claims 10-11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A contour emphasizing circuit, comprising:

a contour pick-up unit for sampling a contour component from an input luminance signal;

a decoder for determining a luminance level of the input luminance signal from among n number of luminance levels predetermined from upper bits of the input luminance signal;

a coefficient control unit comprising multipliers and gates for selectively changing n number of coefficients

E' cont
according to a decoded signal generated by said decoder and utilized as a gate control signal, such that a high-value contour emphasizing coefficient is selected for a high luminance level and a low-value contour emphasizing coefficient is selected for a low luminance level, thereby producing a contour component output by multiplying said selected contour emphasizing coefficient with the contour component sampled by said contour pick-up unit; and

D' cont.
an adder for adding the contour component output from the coefficient control unit to the input luminance signal for outputting a contour-emphasized luminance signal,

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~~according to Claim 11, wherein the decoder interprets whether the luminance level of an input video signal corresponds to which of four luminance levels, and the coefficient control unit comprises four n number of multipliers for multiplying the sampld contour components sampld by using the contour pick up unit by any one of n number of coefficients having a value in the range of $1/2^{n-1}$, $1/2^{n-2}$, $1/2^{n-3}$, ... to $1/2^{n-n}$, $1/8$, $1/4$, $1/2$ and 1 for outputting the product thereof, four along with n number of AND gates respectively connected to the output sides of the four n number of multipliers for using the signal interpreted by said decoder as the gate control signal, the along with an OR gate connected to the output sides of the four n number of AND gates.~~

Claims 13-14 (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The contour emphasizing circuit according to Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said contour pick-up unit comprises a horizontal contour component pick-up unit for sampling the contour component in a horizontal direction from the input luminance signal.